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PTO/SB/30 (09-04)

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<b>Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal</b>  Address to: MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Application Number	09/420,798-Conf. #3308
	Filing Date	October 19, 1999
	First Named Inventor	Yoshihiko Imamura
	Art Unit	2126
	Examiner Name	G. L. Opie
	Attorney Docket Number	SON-1661

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**

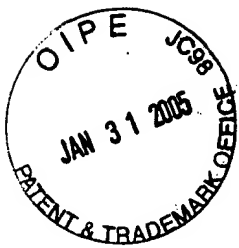
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Miscellaneous**
- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 18-0013. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED</b>			
Signature		Date	January 31, 2005
Name (Print/Type)	Ronald P. Kananen	Registration No.	24,104

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Docket No.: SON-1661  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Yoshihiko Imamura

Application No.: 09/420,798

Art Unit: 2126

Filed: October 19, 1999

Examiner: G. L. Opie

For: PARALLEL PROCESSOR, PARALLEL  
PROCESSING METHOD, AND STORING  
MEDIUM

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FILED  
WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment, filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination and a Petition for a One Month Extension of Time, serves as a full and timely response to the final Office Action dated September 22, 2004. Prior to continued examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: